

**From:** SteveLeyva@aol.com@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/3/01 10:00am  
**Subject:** It's Just Packaging!! For Crying Out Loud!!!!

Who would have the radio taken out of his car? How about the air conditioning? How about any of the new enticing accessories that come with a new car that is intended to make that car more attractive to a prospective buyer? Have you ever noticed that each of the auto manufacturers has installed his own brand of accessory? Is that causing the customer that buys a Ford to have to purchase Ford auto parts (if he doesn't, his warranty is in jeopardy)? The answer is "yes", but in that case, it's all right?

What Microsoft did is no more than that! Business competitors that have a great deal of trouble competing with Microsoft have finally found an easy way to stay in the game.....run to big brother!

Microsoft has done no more than any other leading corporation would do to maintain its business position. It's called competition, guys! It really strikes me as strange that a company that has NOT been declared a "monopoly" can do exactly what Microsoft did and that's OK, because it makes them more "competitive" but, if a declared monopoly does it to maintain their market position (to maintain their competitive level), it is unlawful. When did this country become so sophisticated that it desires to punish successful businesses? And where is the harm to the consumer? I personally have at least three browsers loaded on my computer and I use whichever I need at any given time. The fact that another browser resides within my operating system means nothing.... it's superfluous! Somebody made a really big deal out of nothing..... the business rivals maybe? Congressmen wanting to represent business interests in THEIR constituents' areas?

The current "tech wreck" is holding the economy here and around the globe hostage. If Microsoft is brought down for such a minor thing as "commingling its code", i.e., adding accessory components to its operating system, what will be the effect on that industry sector and the rest of the economy? It seems that there are those in government (e.g., Schumer) that would find this acceptable in order to further their own agenda.

If you care about product innovation, competition, fairness, and the economy, you will do whatever you can to counter the incessant roiling over this issue.

I think you do care and I look forward to seeing your supportive position for Microsoft and the technology industry unveiled in the very near future.

If Microsoft goes down, our economy will take YEARS longer to turn around. That event will destroy the current and future budget outlays. This shouldn't be a partisan issue. It should be an American citizen issue.

Best regards,

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